## **Voluntary Maple Producer Registration Program**

Changes to New Hampshire's Maple Law passed in the 2000 session of the New Hampshire General Court provided for a Voluntary Registration Program for Maple Producers.

The act established a new, non-mandatory registration program administered by the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food. The program is intended for commercial maple producers – those who sell any quantity of maple products. Those producers who elect to participate in the program will have their names placed on a list of voluntary registrants.

The voluntary registrant's list may only be used for certain purposes as stated in the law. Allowed uses for the list are: "disseminating information relative to the maple industry, conducting surveys on topics that are timely and important to the maple industry, and emergency notification to commercial sugarmakers and maple packers of conditions or practices found to adversely impact the quality of maple products."

All NH maple packers and producers are encouraged to voluntarily register by completing a "Voluntary Registration Form" and returning it to the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food. The department will then provide each registrant with a "Voluntary Registration Certificate," which may either be displayed by the registrant or not at their option. The registration is for a six-year period.

Please complete all parts of the registration form and check the business categories that apply. For purposes of registration, the law defines two categories of business: "commercial sugarmaker" and "maple packer." A business may be either or both, depending on whether they purchase syrup from others for re-packing or further processing.

Please contact Richard Uncles at the department's Division of Regulatory Services at 271-3685 or 271-2753 or by email to: <u>runcles@agr.state.nh.us</u> if you have any questions about registration. Thank you for your cooperation.